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8. (amended) In a fluidized bed processor having a fluidizing gas source and a discharging spray nozzle within said processor, the improvement comprising shielding means adjacent said spray nozzle for shielding the initial spray pattern developed by said nozzle against the entrance of particles moving through the fluidized bed, [The processor of claim 7] wherein said shielding means comprises a cylindrical partition surrounding said spray nozzle, one end of said cylindrical partition disposed at a level substantially adjacent the outermost extremity of said spray nozzle.

Add the following claims 12 and 13:

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10. In a fluidized bed processor including a product containing means for containing the fluidized bed, a fluidized gas source for providing fluidizing gas into the product containing means, and a discharging spray nozzle within said product containing means, the improvement comprising shielding means located within the product containing means, adjacent said spray nozzle for shielding the initial spray pattern developed by said nozzle against the entrance of particles moving within the fluidized bed.

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11. The processor of claim 10 wherein said shielding means surrounds said spray nozzle, and is disposed at a level substantially adjacent the outermost extremity of said spray nozzle.